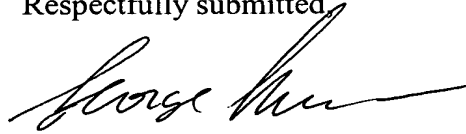


**REMARKS**

Claims 1-23 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the specification is amended to include all applicable U.S. Government contract numbers. No new matter is added. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-23 are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

George P. Simion  
Registration No. 47,089

JAO:GPS/hs

Date: January 21, 2004

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
--